



The President's Daily Brief

~~Top Secret~~ 26 July 1967



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DAILY BRIEF
26 JULY 1967

1. Vietnam

Some of the North Vietnamese regiments that had been operating just south of the Demilitarized Zone appear to have been pulled back to positions within or north of the Demilitarized Zone. This may have been dictated by the need for rest, resupply, and reinforcement after ten days of heavy fighting early this month with US Marines.

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2. Laos

The Communists have turned up the heat a bit under the back-burner war in Laos.

Several recent actions--the 16 July sabotage raid on Luang Prabang airfield and increased artillery shelling elsewhere--seem intended to raise pressure on government troops who themselves have been probing into enemy-held territory. We see no signs of a general Communist offensive, but there may be attempts to pick-off some of the more isolated garrisons.

3. Nigeria

The anticipated federal invasion of break-away Biafra appears to be underway. Press reports early this morning claim the landing force has captured the island of Bonny, an oil terminal at the mouth of the channel leading to Port Harcourt, Biafra's main seaport. Elsewhere in Nigeria there is some evidence of growing anti-American feeling, but as yet no physical harm to US citizens or property.

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4. Arab States

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5. Canada

De Gaulle has overplayed his hand.

When he tossed off his cry for "free Quebec" on Monday, he presumably thought of it as another way to emphasize his exhortations to all Canadians to resist the influence of their "colossal neighbor." Actually, the slogan is used by only the small separatist movement and not by French-Canadians generally.

Responsible French-Canadian leaders can be expected to react as adversely to De Gaulle's performance as are Anglo-Saxon Canadians--and the Pearson government.

6. Argentina

Bolivia's inability to round-up the small bands of guerrillas reported operating near the Argentine border is causing concern in Buenos Aires.

Argentina's President Ongania has given the Bolivians some ammunition and he is increasing his security forces along the border. Although Ongania is reluctant to get more directly involved, he is making contingency plans--along with Paraguay--to cover military intervention should that bridge eventually have to be crossed.

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7. Congo



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